

# **House of Representatives**

General Assembly

File No. 266

January Session, 2009

Substitute House Bill No. 5186

House of Representatives, March 26, 2009

The Committee on Planning and Development reported through REP. SHARKEY of the 88th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

#### AN ACT CONCERNING THE THOMPSONVILLE FIRE DISTRICT.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. Section 4 of number 460 of the special acts of 1935, as
- 2 amended by number 161 of the special acts of 1937 and number 481 of
- 3 the special acts of 1937, is amended to read as follows (Effective from
- 4 passage):
- 5 (a) The annual district meeting of The Thompsonville Fire District
- 6 shall be held on the second or third Thursday of May of each year
- 7 beginning May, 1954, and notices of such annual meetings and any
- 8 special meetings which may be called shall be made in the manner
- 9 prescribed for town meetings. The said Thompsonville Fire District is
- 10 created a body politic and corporate by the name of The
- 11 Thompsonville Fire District, and through said board of fire
- 12 commissioners shall have perpetual succession and shall be a person in
- 13 law capable of suing and being sued, pleading and being impleaded,
- 14 purchasing, holding and conveying real and personal estate requisite

for the purposes of maintaining a department and for the protection of property within said district from fire and making appropriations for the same, and may, at regular meetings, lay taxes upon ratable estate within the limits of said district for the purposes and objects authorized by [this act] number 460 of the special acts of 1935, as amended by number 161 of the special acts of 1937 and number 481 of the special acts of 1937 and this section.

22 (b) The following shall be electors of the district: (1) Any person 23 residing within the limits of the district and qualified to vote in the 24 affairs of the town of Enfield; and (2) any citizen of the United States of 25 the age of eighteen, or more, who is liable to the district for taxes 26 assessed against such citizen. Electors may vote on any matter or 27 question at an annual or special meeting of the district.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:			
Section 1	from passage	Number 460 of the special acts of 1935, Sec. 4	

# Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Sec. 1(b)(1), "town affairs" was replaced with "the affairs of the town of Enfield" for clarity.

PD Joint Favorable Subst.-LCO

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

#### **OFA Fiscal Note**

State Impact: None

# Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 10 \$	FY 11 \$
Thompsonville Fire District	Cost	Potential	Potential

### Explanation

The bill expands voting rights at annual and special meetings of the Thompsonville Fire District to any US citizen who is at least 18 years of age and is liable to the district for taxes. This results in a potential cost to the Thompsonville Fire District.

There are five fire districts comprising the town of Enfield, one of which is the Thompsonville Fire District. These districts are vested with taxing authority within each jurisdiction. Under current law, voting on any matter coming before the Thompsonville Fire District (including taxation) is limited to any person residing in the district and qualified to vote in the town of Enfield, as determined by information provided by the town registrar of voters. It is unclear how the district would obtain information on persons eligible for voting under the bill, though it is anticipated that a paper ballot would be provided to any eligible individual so determined. To the extent that additional resources are necessary to determine, locate, and provide ballots to individuals eligible under the bill, there is a potential cost to the Thompsonville Fire District.

#### The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

Source(s): Thompsonville Fire Department

# OLR Bill Analysis sHB 5186

#### AN ACT CONCERNING THE THOMPSONVILLE FIRE DISTRICT.

# **SUMMARY:**

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

# **COMMITTEE ACTION**

Planning and Development Committee

Joint Favorable Yea 20 Nay 0 (03/06/2009)